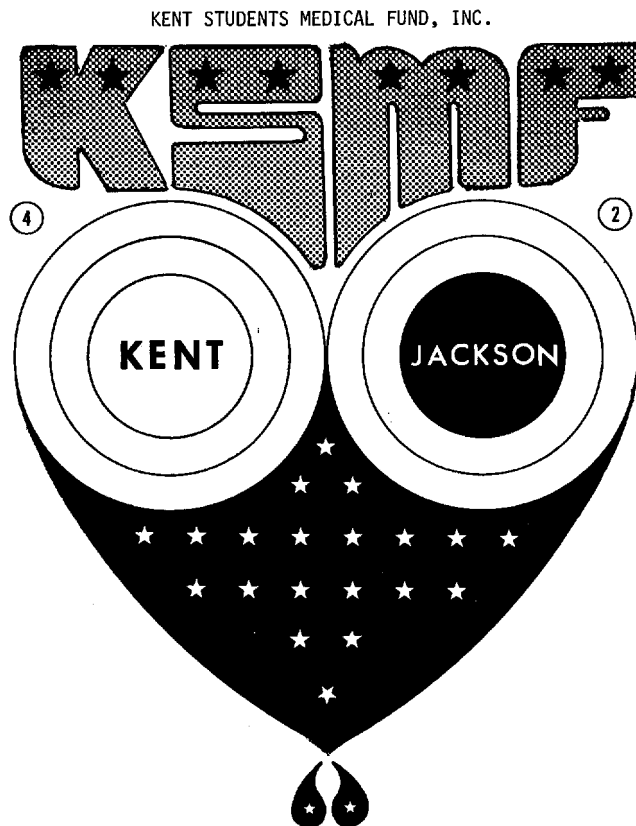


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KENT STUDENTS MEDICAL FUND

BENEFIT PROGRAM

SEPTEMBER 9, 1970

Approved For Release 2001/03/02 : CIA-RDP73-00027R000100020002-7

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HISTORY OF THE KENT STUDENTS MEDICAL FUND

In the wake of the disastrous occurrences on the Kent State University campus there developed an effort initiated by students to bring some positive results out of what many perceived as total chaos. This coming together of dedicated and concerned students resulted in the formation of the Kent Students Medical Fund. It was decided by the group that it would not in any way explore the political ramifications of the tragedy. Rather, they would seek to unite all fronts in securing the funds necessary to alleviate the financial burden placed upon the families of the four students who were slain and the nine others who were injured on May 4, 1970.

As the group commenced the planning and organizing of the Fund, a similar situation developed at Jackson State College in Mississippi. As the Kent group was already so caught up in its task, it was with complete empathy and thus consensus that they moved to correlate their efforts with those of Jackson State. The initial contact with Jackson State was met with a highly favorable response, thus resulting in a cementing of the bond between the two efforts hoping thereby to strengthen each.

With the generous assistance of local businessmen, an office was established in Kent, the space being donated by John Carson, the city's former mayor. It was from this office that the early business of the Fund would originate.

It was necessary for the Fund to become incorporated under the statutes of the state of Ohio in order that the Kent Student Medical Fund might seek Federal tax exemption. This task was thus accomplished on June 3, 1970, with much aid from Warren J. Kerrigan, an attorney in Kent.

Among the provisions of the Code of Regulations of the Kent Students Medical Fund is one designating a board of trustees, consisting of nine students who are elected annually. The trustees are aided by an Advisory Board of professional men, faculty members and administrators. With their expert consultation all donations secured by the Fund will be distributed to the families of those students injured at the two schools.

Once a solid base had thus been established, the group moved to secure the endorsements of compassionate and concerned people of diverse backgrounds as it was felt that in order to be successful, a broad base of support would be necessary. To this end, offices were established in Washington, New York and Boston. All efforts of the four locations were carefully co-ordinated with the Kent office. From these bases much was to be accomplished

in a very short time. As in Kent, both the space and the manpower necessary to outfit the offices were donated.

Beginning locally with a letter appeal to the faculty of Kent State University and branching into phone and door to door solicitation the appeal was extended into the surrounding Kent area thru the coverage of the local media.

On a larger scale, contacts were being made in Washington and New York to plan possible fund-raising events. The response was most gratifying. Busy people everywhere took the time to carefully consider the requests made of them for understanding and aid.

The mood presently of the Kent Students Medical Fund is increasingly optimistic that the primary goal of \$65,000 will be reached. If that is accomplished all further donations will go into a memorial scholarship fund in the names of the six mortally wounded students.

Since, however, the Fund has far to go to reach that goal, the initiating core of the Kent Students Medical Fund is at present dedicating all of their effort to the finalization of their seminal efforts.

FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION WRITE TO

KENT STUDENTS MEDICAL FUND
ROOM 225
108 SOUTH WATER STREET
KENT, OHIO 44240

OR CALL
(216) 673-8948

Dear Friends,

We strongly endorse the benefit program being sponsored Wednesday, September 9, 1970, for the Kent Students Medical Fund of Kent State University and Jackson State College.

The formation of this Fund was a direct result of the events of May 4 and May 14, 1970, during which deaths and numerous injuries occurred. Its purpose is to secure the funds necessary to alleviate the financial burden placed upon the families of the afflicted students of which some are still under hospital care.

We urge your careful consideration, attendance and financial support of this endeavor.

Sincerely yours,

Wm B. Sashe
U.S.S.
Edward Kennedy
U.S.S.